

October 17, 2019

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend to the City Manager the approval of a natural turf sports field, pedestrian pathway and associated site improvements as an improvement for public recreation at Davenport Park, which meets a recreational need within the City (District 8).

DISCUSSION

The Davenport Park Expansion Project (Project) will add 5.6 acres of new park land at 55th Way and Paramount Blvd (Attachment 1). Davenport Park was opened in 2006 with a total of 5.9 acres and the adjacent parcel was purchased by the former Redevelopment Agency with the intent to expand the Park. Originally, the property was a former landfill, which has since been mitigated and closed. This expansion of Davenport Park will create an additional 5.6 acres of outdoor recreational space, almost doubling the size of Davenport Park.

The community directly surrounding the Project is a densely populated, low-income area with limited access to open space. This neighborhood has an estimated 1.21 acres for every 1000 residents, which is below the citywide average of 5.6 acres per 1,000 residents and below the 8 acres per 1,000 residents listed in the City's adopted Open Space and Recreation Element.

The Project includes a natural turf sports field that would be programmable for both football and soccer, with spectator bleachers. The new field will be encompassed by a pedestrian walking path, which connects to the existing path, and a series of fitness stations to activate the site. The design calls for a future skate park site and site improvements such as seating, shade, landscaping, lighting, bike racks, parking and signage are also included (Attachment 2). The Project concept was developed through a community process in 2016, which outlined the community's priorities as a sports field, fitness station and walking loop, a shaded picnic area and site furnishings such as benches and trash receptacles.

On June 20, 2019, the Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) recommended to the Planning Commission that the Davenport Park Expansion be dedicated as a park in perpetuity, which was included as a part of a larger action to clean up park dedication inconsistencies, consistent with City Charter (Section 902).

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The Commission recommends to the City Manager plans for the development, beautification and maintenance of public-park and recreational areas, so Commission support of the proposed improvements is requested.

FISCAL IMPACT

The construction budget for Davenport Park Phase 2 Project is estimated to cost \$3,750,000, which includes \$1,750,000 from the City of Long Beach Measure A. These funds are budgeted in the Capital Projects Fund in the Public Works Department. An additional \$2 million will be necessary to complete the Project as conceptually designed, and the City is awaiting a response on an outstanding grant application that would provide the balance of funding needed for the Project.

The Parks, Recreation and Marine Department will be responsible for maintenance of this new park acreage. Funding for this cost has not been identified, and will be requested as part of the FY21 budget process.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve Recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



MEREDITH REYNOLDS
MANAGER
PARK PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIPS

APPROVED:



GERARDO MOUET
DIRECTOR

GM:SS:MR

ATT: 1 – Davenport Park Map
2 – Davenport Park Conceptual Design Plan



DAVENPORT PARK EXPANSION



ATTACHMENT 2



Plan Date: 2018/07/20 1:29 PM User: hennrich
 Location: L:\Missouri\Water\City\Exp\Davenport\Map\012_12_Seg_A02_8_Land



Conceptual Design Plan
 Phase 2 Davenport Park Expansion
 City of Long Beach